

Deferred: March 2021 NAC Examination

La version française suit.

Dear Dr. Paul O'Byrne,

The National Assessment Collaboration (NAC) Examination scheduled for March 2021 is deferred to the September 2021 session.

The NAC Examination is a one-day exam that assesses candidates' readiness to enter a Canadian residency program. It is a national, standardized examination that tests the knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential for entrance into postgraduate training in Canada.

The timely decision to defer the exam comes following recent developments and changes to public health guidelines related to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic and the Medical Council of Canada (MCC)'s commitment to ensure the safety of our candidates and all involved in the administration of MCC exams.

Please note that unlike the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Examination (MCCQE) Part II candidates whose exam has been postponed twice since the advent of the pandemic, over 1,200 candidates completed the NAC Examination in March and September 2020 at 11 centres and with physical distancing and other personal protective measures, as per the guidelines set by local public health authorities.

The timing of new examination schedules is under detailed review and will be guided by recommendations from public health authorities. We will be providing further updates in summer 2021.

We understand the impact of this decision on candidates and we continue to explore options to shift to virtual delivery for future sessions of the NAC Examination.

As soon as details on future exam options are confirmed, the MCC will inform candidates and stakeholders, and work directly with candidates to transfer their exam application to a future session. If a candidate prefers to withdraw their application, they will receive a full refund.

Sincerely,

Maureen Topps, MB ChB, FCFP, MBA, FRCPC (Hon)
Executive Director and CEO